

Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 AID-05 PC-05 OMB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /077 W

----- 024659

P R 221615Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0678

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

USCINCSO

UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 3130

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CO, GHO

SUBJ: COLUMBIA WITHDRAWS AMBASSADOR FROM HONDURAS

1. UPI AND AP STORIES FROM BOGOTA APPEARED ON THE FRONT PAGES OF LA PRENSA AND TIEMPO ON THE MORNING OF JULY 22. THE STORIES STATED THAT THE COLUMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS ASKED THE AMBASSADOR, HERNANDO LORA MARTINEZ, TO RETURN TO COLUMBIA. ACCORDING TO THE STORIES, NO REASON WAS GIVEN BY THE GOC FOR THE RECALL BUTH THE UPI STORY SAID THAT POLITICAL CIRCLES ATTRIBUTED THE ACTION TO THE RECENT TRAGIC EVENTS IN OLANCHO.

2. POLOFF SPOKE TO AMBASSADOR LORA THE MORING OF JULY 22. LORA CONFIRMED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED A TELEGRAM FROM THE COLUMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY ORDERING HIM TO RETURN. THE EMBASSY WILL BE LEFT IN HANDS OF A CHARGE.

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3. COMMENT: THE RECALL OF THE AMBASSADOR IS BEING

INTERPRETED BY HONDURANS AS AN EXPRESSION OF
PROTEST FOR THE VIOLENT DEATHS OF TWO COLUMBIAN
CITIZENS IN OLANCHO AND, IN SOME CIRCLES, AS
AN INDICATION OF LACK OF CONFIDENCE IN THE GOH
IN BRINGING THE GUILTY TO JUSTICE.
SANCHEZ

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NNN

Message Attributes

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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